

Required Documents
(Any Document Reflecting Alteration Will Not be Accepted)

Requirements are based on North Carolina General Statutes 20-7 and 20-11.

If you are applying for a driver license, a learner’s permit or an ID card **for the first time** in North Carolina, you will need to provide proof of your full name and date of birth, your NC residence address, provide your social security number (SSN) or documentation indicating your legal presence in the U.S. You will need to provide proof of vehicle liability insurance when applying for a driver license. The insurance policy must reflect your name.

Applicants under Age 18 Applying for a Driver License or Learner’s Permit:

If you are under age 18, you must provide either a Driving Eligibility Certificate, proof of graduation from high school, or submit a GED. You must also provide proof of completion of a driver education course which consists of 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours behind wheel instruction.

| Table (1) - Proof of Age and Identity: You must provide proof of your age and identity from the list of documents below. Two forms of identification are required. Additional documents may be required if DMV is unable to verify your identity. For acceptable documents for proof of a name change, see Items 9 and 12 in the table below. If you are unable to provide Item 9 or Item 12, you may complete an affidavit at DMV. Note: <i>The Division of Motor Vehicles may copy the documents presented or hold the documents for a brief period of time to verify authenticity.</i> | | |
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| | DOCUMENT | DETAILS |
| 1. | Driver License or State-Issued Identification Card from NC or another State, Puerto Rico, a U.S. Territory, or a Canadian Province | A driver license, learner’s permit or ID card that is expired less than 2 years. The DL/ID or learner permit submitted must reflect a photo. |
| 2. | Certified birth certificate issued by a government agency in the U.S., Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory, or Canada or U.S. Report of Consular Birth Abroad | Certified true copy, no photocopies unless certified by issuing agency. |
| 3. | Original Social Security Card | When submitted as a form of identification, the original social security card is required. |
| 4. | Tax forms that reflects your full name and full SSN | W-2 or 1099 |
| 5. | Motor Vehicle Driver’s Record | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certified NC Motor Vehicle Record• Non-Certified NC Motor Vehicle Record• Certified Out-of-State Motor Vehicle Record |
| 6. | NC school transcript/registration signed by a school official, or diploma or GED from an NC school, community college or NC university | Driver Education Certificates, Driving Eligibility Certificates and report cards are not accepted as proof of identification. |
| 7. | Valid unexpired U.S. military ID, including DD-2, DD-214, or U.S. Military Dependents Card, U.S. Veteran Universal Access Card | Other than a DD 214, documents submitted as a form of identification must be valid and unexpired. |
| 8. | Valid, unexpired Passport from any nation | When submitted as a form of identification, the passport must be valid and unexpired. |
| 9. | Certified document from a Register of Deeds or government agency in the U.S, Puerto Rico, U.S. territories or Canada | Marriage certificate, divorce decree, court document of name change |
| 10. | Limited Driving Privilege issued by a NC court | Cannot be expired more than 1 year |
| 11. | Valid, unexpired documents issued by DHS/USCIS | An expired immigration document may be valid if accompanied by a letter from USCIS extending the expiration date (e.g. I-797) |
| 12. | Court documents from U.S. jurisdiction, Puerto Rico, U.S. territories or Canada | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Divorce Decree• Court order for change of name or gender• Adoption Papers |
| Table (2) - Social Security Number Requirements: To obtain a driver license, learner’s permit, or ID card, you must provide a Social Security Number (SSN). If you are not eligible for a SSN, you must provide document(s) indicating your legal presence in the U.S. DMV will verify your SSN with the Social Security Administration (SSA). If DMV is unable to verify your SSN with the SSA, you may be required to present documentation of your SSN. Documents that you may present as proof of SSN include: | | |
| 1. | Social Security Card | 5. Payroll record |
| 2. | 1099 Tax Form | 6. Social Security Document reflecting the SSN |
| 3. | W-2 Form | 7. Military Record reflecting the SSN |
| 4. | DD-214 | 8. Medicaid or Medicare Card reflecting the SSN |

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| Table (3) - Proof of Residency in North Carolina: All first-time customers must show proof of their NC residence address. This is in addition to showing proof of identity. One of the two forms of your identity documents from Table (1) may reflect your NC residence address. You may complete an affidavit at DMV if you are unable to provide a document from the table below. Documents that you may present as proof of residency that show your current NC address, include: | |
| 1. Any document issued by this State or county, city, or the federal government | 6. Housing lease or contract, mortgage statement, property or income tax statement |
| 2. NC Vehicle Registration Card or title | 7. Preprinted financial statement |
| 3. NC Voter Precinct Card | 8. School records |
| 4. Military Orders/Documents | 9. NC Vehicle insurance policy |
| 5. Utility bill or cable bill | 10. Letter from homeless shelter |
| Table (4) - No Fee Voter ID Cards: To obtain an ID card for voting purposes, you will need to provide 2 forms of identification from the list of acceptable documents in Table (1). If you are unable to provide two forms of identification from the approved list of acceptable documents, DMV will review documents that you have in your possession. Additionally, you must be a registered voter. If you are not a registered voter, DMV will assist you in completing your voter registration application. You will be provided a receipt for your ID card upon request. Your receipt cannot be used for voting purposes. Your ID card will be mailed to you. | |
| 1. If you are no longer a legal presence customer, you must provide proof of your citizenship or naturalization | 4. Must be a registered voter or submit to a voter registration application process |
| 2. You must sign a declaration stating you do not have photo ID acceptable under GS 163-166.13 | 5. Provide proof of age and identity (see Table 1) |
| 3. Provide proof of NC residency (see Table 3) | 6. Provide a valid SSN |
| Table (5) - No Fee ID Cards: To obtain an ID card at no cost, you will need to provide 2 forms of identification from the list of acceptable documents in Table (1). If you are unable to provide two forms of identification from the approved list of acceptable documents, DMV will review documents that you have in your possession. If you are homeless, you must provide proof from the shelter where you reside. If you are legally blind, you must provide proof from the American or North Carolina Council of the Blind. You will be provided a receipt for your ID card upon request. Your ID card will be mailed to you. | |
| 1. Provide proof of age and identity (see Table 1) | 4. Provide proof of NC residency (see Table 3) |
| 2. Provide a valid SSN | 5. If no SSN, proof of legal presence in the U.S. (see Table 8) |
| 3. If you are formerly non-citizen, you must provide proof of your citizenship or naturalization | 6. You must be 70 years of age or older, legally blind, have a medical cancellation on your driver license or you must be homeless |
| Table (6) - ID Cards: To obtain an ID card, you will need to provide 2 forms of identification from the list of acceptable documents in Table (1). If you are unable to provide two forms of identification from the approved list of acceptable documents, DMV will review documents that you have in your possession. When your ID card is issued, you will be provided a receipt upon request. Your ID card will be mailed to you. | |
| 1. Provide proof of age and identity (see Table 1) | 4. Provide proof of NC residency (see Table 3) |
| 2. Provide a valid SSN | 5. If no SSN, proof of legal presence in the U.S. |
| 3. If you are formerly non-citizen, you must provide proof of your citizenship or naturalization | 6. The cost is \$10 |
| Table (7) – Proof of Legal Presence in the U.S.: To obtain a driver license, learner permit or an identification card, you will need to show proof of legal presence in the U.S. Based on your legal presence status; you may be required to present multiple documents. You will also need to provide 2 forms of identification from the list of acceptable documents in Table (1). | |
| 1. Permanent Resident Card (I-551) | 8. Waiver Traveler/Waiver Business (WT/WB) Admission Stamp |
| 2. Machine-Readable Immigrant Visa (MRIV) with Temp I-551 Language | 9. U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card |
| 3. Temporary I-551 Stamp on Passport or I-94 | 10. Other Documents (Non-Student) w/Alien Number |
| 4. I-766 Employment Authorization Card | 11. I-220 B Order of Supervision w/I-766 card |
| 5. I-20 (F1,F2, M1, M2) Certification with I-94 Arrival/Departure Document or Unexpired Foreign Passport with CBP Admission Stamp | 12. I-512L Authorization for Parole of an Alien into the U.S. w/supporting immigration document (I-551, I-766 or I-94) |
| 6. DS2019 (J1, J2) Certification with I-94 Arrival/Departure Document or Unexpired Foreign Passport with CBP Admission Stamp | 13. Unexpired Foreign Passport w/CBP Admission Stamp |
| 7. I-94 Arrival/Departure Record – Electronic I-94 | |
| Table (8) – Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA): To obtain a driver license, learner permit or an identification card, you will need to show proof of legal presence in the U.S. Based on your legal presence status; you may be required to present multiple documents. You will also need to provide 2 forms of identification from the list of acceptable documents in Table (1). | |
| 1. Employment Authorization Document reflecting Category C33 | 2. I-797 Notice of Action (Case type I-821) Approval Notice with valid “to and from” dates |
| Table (9) - Proof of Insurance: You will need to provide proof of liability insurance coverage from a North Carolina-licensed insurance carrier. Documents that you may present as proof of vehicle insurance include: | |
| 1. Form DL-123 from your insurance agent | 3. An insurance binder |
| 2. Vehicle insurance policy reflecting your name and the issue and expiration dates | 4. An insurance card with your name, the policy number and issue and expiration dates |